

The Daily Gazetteer.

NUMB. 206

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 24. 1736.

N^o 206.



R. D'Anvers has long labour'd to pass himself upon the World for a Conjuror, and would persuade us, that his Followers are such likewise, that he has not a Female Votary in all the Purlieus of Drury, but what is an Adept in Necromancy, as wise as an ancient Sibyl, and fuller of

Prognostications than ever was the celebrated Mother Shipton. It may not be amiss, therefore, to examine a little these Oracular Pretensions, for I am apprehensive it will turn out upon Enquiry, that Mr. D'Anvers is just such a Conjuror as he is a Patriot.

He is a Patriot, who repines at the Felicity of his Country, and sighs at the Prospect of Peace abroad, for fear it should establish Quiet at home; and he is a Conjuror, who rejoices to forebode Calamities, and would rather lose the Reputation of a Seer, and be for ever dumb, than foretell the least publick Blessing.

Let us then consider Mr. D'Anvers in this last Capacity, since I believe it will be granted, that where he cannot impose himself for a Conjuror, he will never be taken for a Patriot: Is it to be imagined, that there is any Man weak enough to be deceived about the Love which Mr. D'Anvers has for his Country? His long unwearied Endeavours to make his Country respected abroad, and preserve its Tranquillity at home, have been too apparent, to leave the least Doubt concerning his Patriotism.

It must then be concluded, for the Honour of his Disciples, that it is his Predictions only that they gape after, and that as their Understandings are generally of the Size of Mrs. Rachel Foresight, so they believe with her, that Mr. D'Anvers has a Familiar, by whose Assistance he can foretell extraordinary Events.

I confess, I was very much at a Loss to find out what these remarkable Events were, which Mrs. Foresight assures us, Mr. D'Anvers and his Familiar had so exactly predicted.

I recalled to Mind whatever Prognostications I could remember to have fallen from the Mouth of this black Adept, and his Coadjutors; but how they had been fulfilled, I could not see in the least, unless I mislook their Intention at first, and should have interpreted them by the Rule of Contraries; a Rule that I have been inform'd is often to be observ'd in expounding the Mysteries of Magick, especially of Patriot Necromancy.

I remember Mr. D'Anvers had scarce made his Appearance in the World, but he grew Oracular, and set out with predicting the speedy Downfall of a certain Great Minister, whom he represented as the most powerful Enctny that ever the Sorcerers had, and that there would not one of them stand any Chance for Advancement till he was demolished.

Accordingly he undertook by his own Maginations, and profound Skill in the Art of destroying and pulling down, to free them from so terrible a Foe; there was not an Imp of Hell, nor an Engine of Discord, but what he employ'd in this great Work; and once he had brought his Design to such Perfection, that he even ventur'd out of the Circle of his Art: He spoke no more in Generals, but boldly dared to particularize, and name the Year in which his Labours should be crown'd with Success. Let me see, I think, it was five Years ago that he was to be triumphant over his Enemy. Shall I then suppose, that this is one of those remarkable Events which Mrs. Foresight hints at? Or, rather, that I misunderstood the Patriot Oracle, and wanted to be inform'd, that by Downfall, Mr. D'Anvers meant Establishment? I am inclin'd to this Opinion, because I find of late when Mr. D'Anvers has not the prophesying Fit upon him, he will talk of this same Minister as established, superior to all Opposition, and with all seeming Sincerity, complain of it as the greatest Grievance that can befall his Party.

But very likely it will be urg'd, that if Mr. D'Anvers has prov'd himself no Conjuror as to this Event, and many may have been dup'd and deceiv'd, by falling into the same Mistake with their Leader, yet there may be other Events, which may intitle him to the Reputation of an Oracle. Neighbouring Na-

tions may have been involv'd in Contention and War, in such a Manner as threaten universal Confusion; and this Patriot Magician may have presaged the Way by which the Danger might be removed from his own Country, and a Period be put to foreign Broils: He may have foreseen the Means of Peace, and consequently Peace itself, and foretold both.

If this was true, indeed, it would plead much in his Behalf; but it is so far from being the Case, that the Reverse of it is the Truth. Upon the breaking out of the War in Europe, Mr. D'Anvers acknowledg'd, that his Art was no longer of any Use; that his Divination was at an End; that he could make no manner of Judgment of Events to come; and he protested, that there was never a Conjuror in England could tell what Step to take.

In this State of profess'd Darknes and Ignorance, he continued till September last, when he again pretended to have some Glimmerings of magick Vision; nay, he boasted to have had an Interview with the Immortal Merlin, and that he had discover'd to him what was to happen to all Europe: He was seiz'd afresh with the Spirit of Divination, and unfolded to us the Things which were to come. I remember he told us;

*The Cock shou'd o'er the Eagle crow;
The Lyon to the Mule shou'd bow;
The Ass, with gaudy Trappings, lead,
Through many a Maze, the milk-white Steed,
War without Blows our Isle shou'd rue,
And without Quiet, Peace ensue.
An armed Host for ever stand,
At once to drain, and awe the Land.
Britons for Right shou'd sue in vain;
And Pyrates lord it o'er the Main.
Old Calpe's solid Rock shou'd quake,
And Pow'r her ancient Seat forsake.
Each honest Heart be seiz'd with Fear,
As if the Day of Doom was near.
Unless two Saints prevent the Clap,
God shield us all from some Mischap.*

I have taken the Pains to set down this Prophecy of our Patriot Diviner, in Presumption that it is one of those which, his antiquated Sibyl informs us, is exactly come to pass.

THE Cock's crowing over the Eagle is apparent enough, from the present drooping Disposition of the Imperial Bird; and that the Lyon bows to the Mule, is, I suppose, to be interpreted by the King of Spain's suing to Great Britain for her Guaranty; for Mr. D'Anvers was pleas'd to inform us, that by the Mule was represented Spain, and by the Lyon Great Britain. What is intended by the milk-white Steed, I suppose, must be this, that as it is in no Mazes at present, if it ever has been in any, it consequently must have been led through them, or out of them.

THAT our Isle shall rue our not going to Blows, seems to be only a large Stretch of a rhetorical Figure, by which the Whole is put for a Part, and our Isle made to stand for a Company of Gun-Powder Makers; for I apprehend nobody else will rue it. In like Manner when it is said, that Peace shall ensue without Quiet, this must be understood as applicable only to the Craftsman's Club; for if we look round, we shall find every Body else quiet.

THE next Distich, *An armed Host for ever stand, At once to drain, and awe the Land,* has had its Completion, no doubt, in the late Reduction of his Majesty's Forces.

Britons for Right shall sue in vain, And Pyrates lord it o'er the Main.

THIS seems a little inexplicable; but I suppose it must have Relation to the Vessels that daily fall a Prey to Pyrates: But as I have not heard of any thing of this Kind lately, I fancy it will be better explained, if by Pyrates we suppose, that our Prophet meant Winds and Tides; for then the Prophecy will be exactly fulfilled in the late Storms and Tides that we have had,

which undoubtedly lord it over the Main, and to which alone Britons can be said to sue in vain.

*Old Calpe's solid Rock shall quake,
And Pow'r her ancient Seat forsake.*

THIS Prophecy has, beyond Dispute, exactly come to pass; and as Mr. D'Anvers inform'd us, by Calpe he meant Gibraltar, so, without all Doubt, it was fulfilled in Camillus's Report of our giving up that Fortrefs to the Spaniards.

By Pow'r's forsaking her ancient Seat, must be intended the unessential Alteration made by the present Preliminaries of Peace in the Balance of Europe.

*Each honest Heart be seiz'd with Fear,
As if the Day of Doom was near.*

THIS Part of the Prediction I look upon as sufficiently compleated in that universal Satisfaction which has spread itself all over Europe, and more particularly in that Joy which fills the Heart of every honest Englishman to see all the other Parts of the Prophecy so happily fulfilled.

THUS I am come to the two last Lines of the Prediction; and what to do with them I can scarcely tell; for they seem to import, that our Patriot's Vision could not be accomplished without some Mischap to England. I think I have shewn the contrary; but if any one shall object, that I may have shewn it to be compleated according to my own Sense of it, but that it is not fulfilled agreeable to the Meaning or Intention of the Oracle; and that, if it had come to pass in its genuine Sense, it would have been terrible for Britain; I grant it all, and then it must be allowed me in Return, that the Clap has been prevented, that we have been shielded from the Mischap; and here I should seriously be oblig'd to confess to Mr. D'Anvers's Spirit of Prophecy in foretelling the Saints from whence our Help was to come, if he did not foolishly deny it after it was brought about.

He seem'd at first to have a true Vision in this Point, and it made me often ready to believe that he had really been with Merlin. What could be more likely, when he so plainly told us, that the Tempest was ready to burst big with Ruin, and that it was only to be prevented by two Saints, which he explained to us to be the King and the Parliament? Every sensible Man justly concluded from hence, that we had no where to look for Safety but from his Majesty's Wisdom and Conduct, and the Parliament's firm Support of his Majesty's Measures. Here then we looked for it, and here we found it; and now after we are delivered from all our Dangers, this silly Diviner goes and destroys all the Credit he had got, denies the two Saints to have had any Hand in it, pretends that it has been brought about by no Saints at all, and that we are oblig'd for our Deliverance to nobody but the ——. Accordingly he throws out his Defiances, and dares the wisest Man in Europe to shew him that the Peace was the natural Effect of our Measures; after that Effect has been produced by them. It would extend my Paper to too great a Length to enter into the Absurdity of our Oracle's Defiances at this Time. I think I have proved what I at first intended, that Mr. D'Anvers is no more a Conjuror than he is a Patriot; and shall conclude with desiring him to shew, if the Peace was not the natural Effect of the Measures taken by the British Court, what Measures the British Ministers should have taken to have produced that Effect; and I promise him, whenever he shall shew me those other Measures; which, if they had been taken by England, would have naturally produced Peace, I will then, and not till then, allow, that his late Measures did not do it.

BRITANNUS.

Schaffhausen, Feb. 7. O. S.

THE Inhabitants of Toggenburg have sent Deputies to Zurich, to desire the Regency of that Canton to take them under their Protection, and to suffer the Affair of the Assassination of Messieurs de Kellar and Rudlinger, in which the Government has no Concern, to be confounded with the other Affairs of that Territory. — They write from Tarn, that the



Marshall de Noailles has made a Present of a Sword with a Gold Hilt, adorned with Diamonds, to the Value of 100,000 Crowns, from his most Christian Majesty, to the King of Sardinia.

Rome, Jan. 24. O. S. Tho' the Abbe Lorenzini did not receive the Reward which he expected last Year from the Pope, he has now revived upon the Stage one of those Pieces which were most in Vogue when the good Taste of the Citizens of Rome was not inferior to their Valour and Power. This Piece is the *Adelphi* of Terence, a Comedy taken from the Greek of Menander, and was acted before the Imperial and Venetian Ambassadors, and several other Noblemen and Prelates, on Monday last, which is 1896 Years since it was exhibited on the Theatre for the first Time, during the Consulship of L. Acinius, and M. Cornelius Cethegus.

Tho' Cardinal Coscia seems to have made up his Affairs with the Apostolical Chamber, and that 'tis therefore rumord he will be soon released from the Castle of St. Angelo, yet 'tis said he is not very fond of coming abroad, because he declares he has been obliged to sell so much of his Estate, Furniture, and Equipage, not only to pay his Fines, but to discharge his Debts, that, he says, he has but 10,000 Crowns a Year left, which he does not think will be sufficient to enable him to keep up the Porte and Lustre of a Cardinal.

Sunday last, soon after the Courier came from Pefaro in the Dutchy of Urbino, with News that 4000 Germans were come thither to demand Quarters, Provision, and Forage, the Legate of Ferrara notified to the Pope, that 2000 more Germans were arrived in that City, upon which a Congregation of Cardinals was held to find out the necessary Sums for their Subsistence: But behold, on Wednesday following, a Courier from the same Place brought Advice of the Arrival of another Body of Germans. In short, there is not a Day but brings some Complaint or other of the Exactions and Oppressions of the Germans, who pour in fresh Numbers of Troops daily upon the Ecclesiastical State, and spread themselves far and near. As the Apostolical Chamber has not wherewithal to answer the Necessities of the several oppressed Towns and Provinces in St. Peter's Patrimony, 'tis reported, that the Government has resolved to establish an universal Poll Tax over all the Land of the Church, notwithstanding the Resolution to the contrary in a late Congregation of Cardinals; and notwithstanding the incessant Murmurings of the People, that the great Expences in building useless Fabricks ought to be saved, instead of laying on new Taxes. Mean time so great is the Want to which they are reduced in the Ecclesiastical State, by the Expences of maintaining and subsisting the Emperor's Troops, that the Pope has resolved to give Permission to the Citizens of Bologna, Ferrara, and Ravenna, to take the consecrated Plate out of the Churches, and carry it to the Mints to be converted into Money. As to Ferrara in particular, tho' that Country is included in the Neutrality, yet the heavy Contributions which the People are obliged to pay, have reduced them to the utmost Misery; so that they are as compleatly ruined, as if they had suffered the Calamities of a long War.

Frankfort, Feb. 7. O. S. The Baron de Nierodt, who has been at Paris again, is return'd from thence to Neu-Wied, from whence he proposes to set out immediately for Vienna. We understand by private Letters, that it was by this Baron's Canal, that M. de Farci, chief Commissary of the French Army on the Moselle, did, at the Beginning of last Year, make the first Overtures of certain Proposals of Peace to the Count de Neu-Wied, with whom the said Baron then had certain Conferences about the Contributions; and that it was after these Overtures, that the Count de Neu-Wied, accompanied by the Baron de Nierodt, who had been at Paris, and who was return'd from thence with M. de la Baune, went to Vienna to lay the Foundations of the present Peace.

Ratisbon, Feb. 6. O. S. A very ingenious Latin Poem appears here upon the Advancement of Don Lewis, Infant of Spain, to the Dignity of a Cardinal. The Lutherans of the Palatinate still persist in their Demand, to have a Share in the Ecclesiastical Revenues of the Calvinists of this Country, and have, for that Purpose, applied to a powerful Potentate of that Persuasion; but what Answer he return'd them, we don't yet hear.

Brunswick, Feb. 8. O. S. In the Memory of Man, we never had such a pitiful Fair as the last, which is not only imputed to the deep Mourning that is still worn by the Court, but also to the Prohibition of Masquerades and other publick Diversions during the Carnival, and to the Incapacity of several Merchants to carry on their Commerce, by reason of the divers Species of Gold and Silver that have been cry'd down in several Places.

Warsaw, Feb. 4. O. S. They write from Konigsberg, that Money grows every Day scarcer, and Re-

pentance and Confusion greater among the Polish Lords and Gentry at that Place. The very Debts contracted only by General Wacht Meistre of Lithuania, and his Father, amount already to 50,000 Florins: That General Katte the Governor, will not yet suffer any one to get away without his Leave; that the Chief of the contrary Party lately caused a Viaticum of 12,000 Florins to be distributed to the Hussars and Towarzis, allowing 70 to each of the Private Centinels, and 120 to the Officers; but that the Sum not being sufficient to discharge the Debts of several, the Insolvents were obliged to stay behind, and one of them for attempting to get off, had like to have been clapped up in the Citadel. The Weywoods of Lublin and Witepski, are impatiently expecting Bills of Exchange, to set open their Way through the Gates of Koningsberg. The former wrote 't'other Day to the Great Marshal of the Crown, that he had always defended the Polish Liberties, and particularly the Freedom of Election, and should ever continue to defend them. The Weywood of Belsk says, that at the Time of the Election, he foresaw the Schism which follow'd, and actually predicted it; but he was not regarded: He concludes with a Motion for such a Supply of Money as may be sufficient to break the Bands that detain him at Koningsberg.

Hamburgh, Feb. 2. O. S. A Placaert has been fix'd up at the Exchange here, by Order of the King of Denmark, for raising 400,000 Crowns to build a new Palace at Copenhagen. Five per Cent. Interest is to be paid, and no Subscription to be less than 500 Crowns. The Principal is to be paid off at the End of 4 Years, and his Majesty is to mortgage all his private Revenues for the Payment. 'Tis said that this Palace which the King has order'd his chief Architect to begin with all Diligence, will be one of the finest in Europe for its Situation, Structure, and Grandeur; the very Iron and Copper that is already prepar'd for it, having cost above 600,000 Crowns.

Colegn, Feb. 14. O. S. We are assured, that there is an Alliance on Foot between the Kings of Great Britain, Prussia, Sweden, Denmark and the States of Holland.

Hague, Feb. 7. O. S. The States General have, by M. Ginkel their Minister at Berlin, complained to the King of Prussia against some Prussian Officers, for having listed some of their Subjects in the Territories of Guelderland; and their High Mightinesses have the less Reason to doubt of proper Satisfaction, because they are persuaded the Fact was committed, not only without the Knowledge, but against the Orders of his Prussian Majesty.

Hague, Feb. 17. O. S. On the 9th Instant, the Count de Canales, the King of Sardinia's Plenipotentiary, in a Conference with the States Deputies, gave them his Master's Answer to the Invitation their High Mightinesses sent him to accede to the Articles of Peace; we are assured his Majesty therein declares, 'That he was determin'd to the said Accession, from his high Regard to their High Mightinesses Invitation, and from his Resolution to concur in the Re-establishment of the General Tranquillity: That with this View he had fix'd on the Choice of the two Districts left to his Disposal, &c.'

'Tis reported, that the Districts he has chose, are the Vigevanese and the Tortonese. Mean time 'tis not doubted but the Marshal de Noailles had a great Stroke in determining the King of Sardinia, while he was at his Court.

L O N D O N .

Last Friday Se'night died at Dunkeld in Scotland, the Marquis of Tullibardine, only Son to the Duke of Athol, about 9 Months old.

But the Lord Kilkerran, who had been dangerously ill for some time past, is in a fair Way of Recovery.

The Lord Chief Baron of Scotland has appointed Mr. Alexander Home, Advocate, Keeper of the Exchequer Seal, in the room of Anthony Normand deceased.

And we hear that Mr. George Drummond jun. of Blair, Advocate, is appointed Secretary to the Order of the Thistle, in the room of Sir David Nairn deceased, a Place worth 300 l. a Year, and 100 for every Installation.

Last Sunday Se'night there was one of the greatest Storms of Wind and Snow at Edinburgh that has been known there; so that all the Ships in the Road of Leith were drove out to Sea, and one obliged to cut down her Masts. And at Inverness the Week before last three Soldiers with their Wives and Children perished in the Snow.

Wednesday Night last died at Exeter, Major Tucker of the Regiment now quartered in that City.

And the same Day died there Madam Green, Mother to William Rodd of Weare, Esq; by which a considerable Estate devolves to him.

Last Saturday Se'night a Fire broke out at the Red Lyon upon the Wherry Key in Yarmouth, which burnt down the said House, and did great Damage to two others, in which were several Barrels of Pitch and Tar; but, by the Diligence of the Town's People, it was happily extinguished, without farther Damage.

Friday last the Rev. Mr. Terry, M. A. was inducted into the Rectory of St. Mary Breadman, and St. Andrew, in Canterbury, void by the Death of Mr. William Wood.

Last Wednesday Se'night one Mary Dalton, who sold Lemons and Oranges at Bath, was found murdered and robbed, and taken out of the River near Twiterton. One Perry a Mason, who has been apprehended on Suspicion, and committed to Gaol, has, 'tis said, confessed the Robbery, but not the Murder.

Last Monday Se'night the House of Thomas Teddeman, Esq; at Harbledown near Canterbury, was broke open, and an old Chest of Drawn carried out, in which (among other Things) was above 390 l. in Specie; but the empty Drawn, and several Pieces of Plate taken out of the Beaufette, was afterwards found in his Rabbit Warren.

Last Saturday died at his Seat at Ingestre near Stafford, Walter Lord Viscount Chitwind of Beer-Haven in the County of Cork, and Baron of Rathdown in the County of Dublin, who was High Steward of the Borough of Stafford, and represented it in Parliament from the Year 1702 till the last Election. His Lordship married Mary, Daughter to John Berkeley Lord Viscount Fitzharding, and was, about 20 Years ago, made chief Ranger of St. James's Park.

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